Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1. (Currently Amended) An adaptive method for obtaining representative text items from a plurality of text items in ~~an~~ active computer task~~s~~, the method comprising:

receiving first information indicative of ~~the~~ a first active computer task, the first information including ~~the~~ a first plurality of text items and ~~at least one~~ a stylistic attribute associated with ~~at least one~~ a first text item in the first plurality of text items;

computing a first statistical value indicative of a first number of occurrences of the ~~at least one~~ stylistic attribute in the first active computer task;

for each of the first plurality of text items, assigning a first weight with a first magnitude that is based on the first statistical value and the ~~at least one~~ stylistic attribute;

ranking the first plurality of text items based on the first weight assigned to each of the first plurality of text items to produce a first plurality of ranked text items; ~~and~~

generating ~~the~~ first representative text items based on ~~a result of the ranking step~~ the first plurality of ranked text items;

wherein the first active computer task is a task other than entering search terms for the purpose of retrieving information ~~.~~;

 receiving second information indicative of a second active computer task, the second information including a second plurality of text items and the stylistic attribute associated with a second text item in the second plurality of text items;

 computing a second statistical value indicative of a second number of occurrences of the stylistic attribute in the second active computer task;

 for each of the second plurality of text items, assigning a second weight with a second magnitude that is based on the second statistical value and the stylistic attribute, the second magnitude being different than the first magnitude;

ranking the second plurality of text items based on the second weight assigned to each of the second plurality of text items to produce a second plurality of ranked text items; and

generating second representative text items based on the second plurality of ranked text items;

wherein the second active computer task is a task other than entering search terms for the purpose of retrieving information.

Claim 2.   (Currently Amended)   The method of claim 1, wherein the ~~at least one~~ stylistic attribute includes at least one of font style, line height, font size and associated hyperlink.

Claim 3.   (Currently Amended)   The method of claim 2, wherein the <u>first</u> weight assigned to at least one of the <u>first</u> plurality of text items is increased in response to the text item being located in a specific region of the <u>first</u> active computer task.

Claim 4.   (Currently Amended)   The method of claim 3, wherein the specific region is a region of the <u>first</u> active computer task that is selected by ~~the~~ <u>a</u> user.

Claim 5.   (Currently Amended)   The method of claim 1, further comprising forming a plurality of search terms based on the <u>first plurality of ranked text items</u>~~result of the ranking step~~.

Claim 6.   (Currently Amended)   A data processing system for obtaining representative text items from a plurality of text items in ~~an~~ active computer task<u>s</u>, the system comprising:

a data processor for processing data;

a data storage device for storing instructions; and

a data transmission path coupled to the data processor and the data storage device;

3

wherein the instructions, when executed by the data processor, controls the data processing system to perform the machine-implemented steps of:

receiving first information indicative of the a first active computer task, the first information including the a first plurality of text items and at least one a stylistic attribute associated with at least one a first text item in the first plurality of text items;

computing a first statistical value indicative of a first number of occurrences of the at least one stylistic attribute in the first active computer task;

for each of the first plurality of text items, assigning a first weight t with a first magnitude that is based on the first statistical value and the at least one stylistic attribute;

ranking the first plurality of text items based on the fist weight assigned to each of the first plurality of text items to produce a first plurality of ranked text items; and

generating the first representative text items based on a result of the ranking step the first plurality of ranked text items;

wherein the first active computer task is a task other than entering search terms for the purpose of retrieving information.;

receiving second information indicative of a second active computer task, the second information including a second plurality of text items and the stylistic attribute associated with a second text item in the second plurality of text items;

computing a second statistical value indicative of a second number of occurrences of the stylistic attribute in the second active computer task;

for each of the second plurality of text items, assigning a second weight with a second magnitude that is based on the second statistical value and the stylistic attribute, the second magnitude being different than the first magnitude;

ranking the second plurality of text items based on the second weight assigned to each of the second plurality of text items to produce a second plurality of ranked text items; and

generating second representative text items based on the second plurality of ranked text items;

wherein the second active computer task is a task other than entering search terms for the purpose of retrieving information.

Claim 7.   (Currently Amended)   The system of claim 6, wherein the at least one stylistic attribute includes at least one of font style, line height, font size and associated hyperlink.

Claim 8.   (Currently Amended)   The system of claim 6 further comprising forming a plurality of search terms based on the <u>first plurality of ranked text items</u>result of the ranking step.

Claim 9.   (Currently Amended)   A machine-readable medium <u>storage device</u> bearing instructions for obtaining representative text items from a plurality of text items in an active computer task<u>s</u>, the instructions upon execution by a data processing system causing the data processing system to perform the steps of:

receiving <u>first</u> information indicative of the <u>a first</u> active computer task, the <u>first</u> information including the <u>first</u> plurality of text items and at least one<u>a</u> stylistic attribute associated with at least one<u>a first</u> text item in the <u>first</u> plurality of text items;

computing a <u>first</u> statistical value indicative of a <u>first</u> number of occurrences of the at least one stylistic attribute in the <u>first</u> active computer task;

for each of the <u>first</u> plurality of text items, assigning a <u>first</u> weight <u>with a first magnitude that is</u> based on the <u>first</u> statistical value and the at least one stylistic attribute;

ranking the <u>first</u> plurality of text items based on the <u>first</u> weight assigned to each of the <u>first</u> plurality of text items <u>to produce a first plurality of ranked text items</u>; and

generating the <u>first</u> representative text items based on the <u>first plurality of ranked text items</u>ranking of the plurality of text items;

wherein the <u>first</u> active computer task is a task other than entering search terms for the purpose of retrieving information<u>.</u><u>;</u>

<u>receiving second information indicative of a second active computer task, the second information including a second plurality of text items and the stylistic attribute associated with a second text item in the second plurality of text items;</u>

<u>computing a second statistical value indicative of a second number of occurrences of the stylistic attribute in the second active computer task;</u>

for each of the second plurality of text items, assigning a second weight with a second magnitude that is based on the second statistical value and the stylistic attribute, the second magnitude being different than the first magnitude;

ranking the second plurality of text items based on the second weight assigned to each of the second plurality of text items to produce a second plurality of ranked text items; and

generating second representative text items based on the second plurality of ranked text items;

wherein the second active computer task is a task other than entering search terms for the purpose of retrieving information.

Claim 10--29. (Cancelled)

Claim 30 (Currently Amended):   The method of claim 1 further including the step of determining properties of the first active computer task;

wherein the ~~assigned~~ first weight is tunable based on the properties of the first active computer task.

Claim 31 (Currently Amended):   The method of claim 30, wherein the properties of the first active computer task include at ~~lease~~ least one of application software being employed to perform the first active computer task, a type of the first active computer task, a genre of the first active computer task, attributes ~~relates to~~ associated with a user manipulating the first active computer task, properties of an information source of which a search will be conducted, and a state of the first active computer task.

Claim 32 (Currently Amended):   The system of claim 6, wherein:

the instructions, when executed by the data processor, further control the data processing system to determine properties of the first active computer task; and

the ~~assigned~~ first weight is tunable based on the properties of the first active computer task.

Claim 33 (Currently Amended): The system of claim 32, wherein the properties of the first active computer task include at least one of application software being employed to perform the first active computer task, a type of the first active computer task, a genre of the first active computer task, attributes ~~related to~~associated with a user manipulating the first active computer task, properties of an information source on which a search will be conducted, and a state of the first active computer task.

Claim 34 (Currently Amended): The machine-readable storage device~~medium~~ of claim 9, wherein:
the instructions upon execution by a data processing system cause the data processing system to determine properties of the first active computer task; and
the ~~assigned~~ first weight is tunable based on the properties of the first active computer task.

Claim 35 (Currently Amended): The machine-readable storage device~~medium~~ of claim 34, wherein the properties of the first active computer task include at least one of application software being employed to perform the first active computer task, a type of the first active computer task, a genre of the first active computer task, attributes ~~related to~~associated with a user manipulating the first active computer task, properties of an information source on which a search will be conducted, and a state of the first active computer task.

Claim 36. (Currently Amended) The ~~method~~ machine-readable storage device of claim 9, wherein the ~~at least one~~ stylistic attribute includes at least one of font style, line height, font size and associated hyperlink.

Claim 37. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the ~~at least one style~~ stylistic attribute includes at least one of a list element, a heading, a table heading, a table cell, a navigation bar, a menu, a header, and a footer.

Claim 38. (Currently Amended)   The method of claim 1, wherein the ~~at least one style~~stylistic attribute includes a size of a bounding rectangle.

Claim 39. (Currently Amended)   The method of claim 1, wherein assigning the first weight is based on at least one of a document genre, a document type, and a document subject matter.

Claim 40. (Currently Amended)   The method of claim 1, wherein assigning the first weight is based on at least one of a genre of the first active computer task, a type of the first active computer task, and a subject matter of the first active computer task.

Claim 41. (Currently Amended)   The method of claim 1, wherein assigning the first weight is based on a user's role in an organization.

Claim 42. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein assigning the first weight is based on a location of a document associated with the first active computer task, the location being determined by at least one of an associated URL, a file name, a directory name, and a string indicative of file location.

Claim 43. (Currently Amended)   The system of claim 6, wherein the ~~at least one style~~stylistic attribute includes at least one of a list element, a heading, a table heading, a table cell, a navigation bar, a menu, a header, and a footer.

Claim 44. (Currently Amended)   The system of claim 6, wherein the ~~at least one style~~stylistic attribute includes a size of a bounding rectangle.

Claim 45. (Currently Amended)   The system of claim 6, wherein assigning the first weight is based on at least one of a document genre, a document type, and a document subject matter.

Claim 46. (Currently Amended)   The system of claim 6, wherein assigning the first weight is based on at least one of a genre of the first active computer task, a type of the first active computer task, and a subject matter of the first active computer task.

Claim 47. (Currently Amended)   The system of claim 6, wherein assigning the first weight is based on a user's role in an organization.

Claim 48. (Currently Amended) The ~~system~~ method of claim 1, wherein assigning the first weight is based on a location of a document associated with the first active computer task, the location being determined by at least one of an associated URL, a file name, a directory name, and a string indicative of file location.

Claim 49. (Currently Amended)   The machine-readable storage device~~medium~~ of claim 9, wherein the ~~at least one style~~stylistic attribute includes at least one of a list element, a heading, a table heading, a table cell, a navigation bar, a menu, a header, and a footer

Claim 50. (Currently Amended)   The machine-readable storage device~~medium~~ of claim 9, wherein the ~~at least one style~~stylistic attribute includes a size of a bounding rectangle.

Claim 51. (Currently Amended)   The machine-readable storage device~~medium~~ of claim 9, wherein assigning the first weight is based on at least one of a document genre, a document type, and a document subject matter.

Claim 52. (Currently Amended)   The machine-readable storage device~~medium~~ of claim 9, wherein assigning the first weight is based on at least one of a genre of the first active computer task, a type of the first active computer task, and a subject matter of the first active computer task.

Claim 53. (Currently Amended)   The machine-readable storage device~~medium~~ of claim 9, wherein assigning the first weight is based on a user's role in an organization.

Claim 54. (Currently Amended) The machine-readable storage device~~medium~~ of claim 9, wherein assigning the first weight is based on a location of a document associated with the first active computer task, the location being determined by at least one of an associated URL, a file name, a directory name, and a string indicative of file location.

Claim 55. (Currently Amended)   An adaptive method for obtaining representative text items from a plurality of text items in ~~an~~ active computer task_s_, the method comprising:

receiving first information indicative of ~~the~~ a first active computer task, the first information including ~~the~~ a first plurality of text items and ~~at least one~~a field attribute associated with ~~at least one~~a first text item in the first plurality of text items;

computing a first statistical value indicative of a first number of occurrences of the ~~at least one~~ field attribute in the first active computer task;

for each of the first plurality of text items, assigning a first weight with a first magnitude that is based on the first statistical value and the ~~at least one~~ field attribute;

ranking the first plurality of text items based on the first weight assigned to each of the first plurality of text items to produce a first plurality of ranked items; and

generating ~~the~~first representative text items based on ~~a result of the ranking step~~the first plurality of ranked items;

wherein the first active computer task is a task other than entering search terms for the purpose of retrieving information~~.~~;

receiving second information indicative of a second active computer task, the second information including a second plurality of text items and the field attribute associated with a second text item in the second plurality of text items;

10

computing a second statistical value indicative of a second number of occurrences of the field attribute in the second active computer task;

for each of the second plurality of text items, assigning a second weight with a second magnitude that is based on the second statistical value and the field attribute, the second magnitude being different than the first magnitude;

ranking the second plurality of text items based on the second weight assigned to each of the second plurality of text items to produce a second plurality of ranked text items; and

generating second representative text items based on the second plurality of ranked text items;

wherein the second active computer task is a task other than entering search terms for the purpose of retrieving information.

Claim 56. (Currently Amended)   The method of claim 55, wherein the at least one field attribute includes at least one of an email sender field, an email recipient field, a signature field, and a salutation field.

Claim 57. (Currently Amended)   The method of claim 55, wherein the at least one field attribute includes a web page address field.

Claim 58. (Currently Amended)   The method of claim 55, wherein the at least one field attribute includes at least one of a document template, a header, a footer, a page number, a title, an author, a byline, and a date published.

Claim 59. (Currently Amended)   The method of claim 55, wherein the at least one field attribute includes a product name.

Claim 60. (Currently Amended)   The method of claim 55, wherein assigning the first weight is based on at least one of a document genre, a document type, and a document subject matter.

Claim 61. (Currently Amended)   The method of claim 55, wherein assigning the first weight is based on at least one of a genre of the first active computer task, a type of the first active computer task, and a subject matter of the first active computer task.

Claim 62. (Currently Amended)   The method of claim 55, wherein assigning the first weight is based on a user's role in an organization.

Claim 63. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 55, wherein assigning the first weight is based on a location of a document associated with the first active computer task, the location being determined by at least one of an associated URL, a file name, a directory name, and a string indicative of file location.

Claim 64. (Currently Amended)   A data processing system for obtaining representative text items from a plurality of text items in an active computer tasks, the system comprising:

    a data processor for processing data;

    a data storage device for storing instructions; and

    a data transmission path coupled to the data processor and the data storage device;

    wherein the instructions, when executed by the data processor, controls the data processing system to perform the machine-implemented steps of:

        receiving first information indicative of the a first active computer task, the first information including the a first plurality of text items and at least one a field attribute associated with at least one a first text item in the first plurality of text items;

        computing a first statistical value indicative of a first number of occurrences of the at least one field attribute in the first active computer task;

        for each of the first plurality of text items, assigning a first weight with a first magnitude that is based on the first statistical value and the at least one field attribute;

        ranking the first plurality of text items based on the first weight assigned to each of the first plurality of text items to produce a first plurality of ranked items; and

generating the <u>first</u> representative text items based on ~~a result of the ranking step~~<u>the first plurality of ranked items</u>;

wherein the <u>first</u> active computer task is a task other than entering search terms for the purpose of retrieving information.~~.~~<u>;</u>

<u>   receiving second information indicative of a second active computer task, the second information including a second plurality of text items and the field attribute associated with a second text item in the second plurality of text items;</u>

<u>   computing a second statistical value indicative of a second number of occurrences of the field attribute in the second active computer task;</u>

<u>   for each of the second plurality of text items, assigning a second weight with a second magnitude that is based on the second statistical value and the field attribute, the second magnitude being different than the first magnitude;</u>

<u>   ranking the second plurality of text items based on the second weight assigned to each of the second plurality of text items to produce a second plurality of ranked text items; and</u>

<u>   generating second representative text items based on the second plurality of ranked text items;</u>

<u>   wherein the second active computer task is a task other than entering search terms for the purpose of retrieving information.</u>

Claim 65. (Currently Amended)   The system of claim 64, wherein the ~~at least one~~ field attribute includes at least one of an email sender field, an email recipient field, a signature field, and a salutation field.

Claim 66. (Currently Amended)   The system of claim 64, wherein the ~~at least one~~ field attribute includes a web page address field.

Claim 67. (Currently Amended)   The system of claim 64, wherein the ~~at least one~~ field attribute includes at least one of a document template, a header, a footer, a page number, a title, an author, a byline, and a date published.

Claim 68. (Currently Amended)   The system of claim 64, wherein the ~~at least one~~ field attribute includes a product name.

Claim 69. (Currently Amended)   The system of claim 64, wherein assigning the first weight is based on at least one of a document genre, a document type, and a document subject matter.

Claim 70. (Currently Amended)   The system of claim 64, wherein assigning the first weight is based on at least one of a genre of the first active computer task, a type of the first active computer task, and a subject matter of the first active computer task.

Claim 71. (Currently Amended)   The system of claim 64, wherein assigning the first weight is based on a user's role in an organization.

Claim 72. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 64, wherein assigning the first weight is based on a location of a document associated with the first active computer task, the location being determined by at least one of an associated URL, a file name, a directory name, and a string indicative of file location.

Claim 73. (Currently Amended)   A machine-readable storage device~~medium~~ bearing instructions for obtaining representative text items from a plurality of text items in ~~an~~ active computer task~~s~~, the instructions upon execution by a data processing system causing the data processing system to perform the steps of:

receiving first information indicative of ~~the~~ a first active computer task, the first information including ~~the~~ a first plurality of text items and ~~at least one~~a field attribute associated with ~~at least one~~a first text item in the first plurality of text items;

computing a first statistical value indicative of a first number of occurrences of the ~~at least one~~ field attribute in the first active computer task;

for each of the first plurality of text items, assigning a first weight with a first magnitude that is based on the first statistical value and the ~~at least one~~ field attribute;

ranking the <u>first</u> plurality of text items based on the <u>first</u> weight assigned to each of the <u>first</u> plurality of text items <u>to produce a first plurality of ranked items</u>; ~~and~~

generating ~~the~~ <u>first</u> representative text items based on ~~a result of the ranking step~~<u>the first plurality of ranked items</u>;

wherein the <u>first</u> active computer task is a task other than entering search terms for the purpose of retrieving information~~.~~<u>;</u>

_____ <u>receiving second information indicative of a second active computer task, the second information including a second plurality of text items and the field attribute associated with a second text item in the second plurality of text items;</u>

_____ <u>computing a second statistical value indicative of a second number of occurrences of the field attribute in the second active computer task;</u>

_____ <u>for each of the second plurality of text items, assigning a second weight with a second magnitude that is based on the second statistical value and the field attribute, the second magnitude being different than the first magnitude;</u>

_____ <u>ranking the second plurality of text items based on the second weight assigned to each of the second plurality of text items to produce a second plurality of ranked text items; and</u>

_____ <u>generating second representative text items based on the second plurality of ranked text items;</u>

_____ <u>wherein the second active computer task is a task other than entering search terms for the purpose of retrieving information.</u>

Claim 74. (Currently Amended)   The machine-readable <u>storage device</u>~~medium~~ of claim 73, wherein the ~~at least one~~ field attribute includes at least one of an email sender field, an email recipient field, a signature field, and a salutation field.

Claim 75. (Currently Amended)   The machine-readable <u>storage device</u>~~medium~~ of claim 73, wherein the ~~at least one~~ field attribute includes a web page address field.

Claim 76. (Currently Amended)   The machine-readable <u>storage device</u>~~medium~~ of claim 73, wherein the ~~at least one~~ field attribute includes at least one of a

15

document template, a header, a footer, a page number, a title, an author, a byline, and a date published.

Claim 77. (Currently Amended)   The machine-readable storage device~~medium~~ of claim 73, wherein the ~~at least one~~ field attribute includes a product name.

Claim 78. (Currently Amended)   The machine-readable storage device~~medium~~ of claim ~~72~~73, wherein assigning the first weight is based on at least one of a document genre, a document type, and a document subject matter.

Claim 79. (Currently Amended)   The machine-readable storage device~~medium~~ of claim 73, wherein assigning the first weight is based on at least one of a genre of the first active computer task, a type of the first active computer task, and a subject matter of the first active computer task.

Claim 80. (Currently Amended)   The machine-readable storage device~~medium~~ of claim 73, wherein assigning the first weight is based on a user's role in an organization.

Claim 81. (Currently Amended) The machine-readable storage device~~medium~~ of claim 73, wherein assigning the first weight is based on a location of a document associated with the first active computer task, the location being determined by at least one of an associated URL, a file name, a directory name, and a string indicative of file location.